

REMARKS

SUMMARY

Consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 18-34 are now in the application. Claims 18-34 have been added, but are based in substantial part upon the originally filed claims 1-17. Claims 1-17 have been canceled.

A substitute specification is provided to help place the application in proper idiomatic English, to provide required and suggested headings (e.g., Background, Technical Field, Summary, etc.) in proper context, and to apply other general application components for national stage U.S. applications.

The above-noted changes to the specification and claims are provided solely for clarification or cosmetic reasons. For example, in some cases the text has been changed to place the application in proper idiomatic English. The changes are neither provided to overcome the prior art, nor do they narrow the scope of the claim for any reason related to the statutory requirements for a patent.

Please note that the application claims priority to German Application No.103 57 982.6, filed December 11, 2003, the International Priority of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119, and International Application No. PCT/EP2004/014124, filed December 9, 2004, the Priority of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §120.

No new matter is believed to be introduced by the amendments to either the claims or the specification.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, consideration and allowance of claims 18-34 is solicited. If the Examiner has any questions concerning the present paper, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at (206) 407-1509. If any fees are due in connection with filing this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the Deposit Account of Schwabe, Williamson and Wyatt, P.C., No. 50-0393.

Respectfully submitted,
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